



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MILLIONS MORE STUDENTS TO RECEIVE LEXILE MEASURES ON STANFORD 10 ACHIEVEMENT TEST REPORTS

*Agreement with Harcourt Assessment, Inc. Continues Momentum for
Acceptance of the Lexile Framework
as Global Standard for Reading Measurement*

SAN ANTONIO & DURHAM, N.C. – June 2, 2004 – Next school year, millions more K-12 students nationwide will be able to receive Lexile[®] measures when they take the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition. A new agreement between Harcourt Assessment, Inc. -- publisher of the Stanford 10 -- and The Lexile Framework[®] for Reading will now provide states and school districts using the test with the option to receive an actionable reading measure for their students. The companies will offer this value-added service at no additional cost for new orders placed through June 30, 2005.

Lexile measures will be offered as an option for the following Stanford 10 reports: Student Report with Clusters, Student Report with Narrative, Home Report and Reading First Student Report. Lexile measures will also be an option for students taking the Stanford Reading First test. As an added bonus, teachers and parents can access a special Web site, www.HarcourtLexile.com, to obtain a list of fiction and nonfiction titles that match a student's Lexile reading level.

"Harcourt Assessment is committed to offering the highest quality assessment tools," said Jeff Galt, Harcourt Assessment's president and CEO. "We believe that offering Lexile measures on Stanford 10 and Stanford Reading First reports will help teachers and parents use test results to improve reading achievement for their children."

www.Lexile.com

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As the most widely adopted reading measure in use today, Lexiles provide a common scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty, allowing easy monitoring of student progress. Recognized as the most accurate way to match readers with text, there are currently Lexile measures for nearly 50,000 books and more than 70 million articles.

“Harcourt Assessment’s decision to offer Lexile measures on Stanford 10 and Stanford Reading First test reports is one more indicator of the growing acceptance of the scale as the global standard for matching readers and text,” said Malbert Smith III, Ph.D., president of MetaMetrics® Inc., developer of the Lexile Framework for Reading. “We are proud to work with a leader in educational testing, such as Harcourt Assessment, to ensure that parents and teachers nationwide can use Lexile measures as a tool for improving student reading ability.”

About Harcourt Assessment, Inc.

Based in San Antonio, Harcourt Assessment, Inc., is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs. Its educational products include the Stanford Achievement Test series and the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test®. Under the PsychCorp™ brand, it also publishes a wide variety of clinical products, such as the Wechsler® family of tests, including the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children® (WISC-IV®) and the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence™, as well as the CELF® family of speech and language tests. Through the development of custom statewide educational testing programs, Harcourt is helping more than 20 states meet the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The company is affiliated with the Harcourt book publishing companies and together they form the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL) -- a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

About The Lexile Framework for Reading

The Lexile Framework for Reading (www.Lexile.com) provides a common scale for matching reader ability and text difficulty, allowing easy monitoring of progress. Lexile

measures give teachers and parents the confidence to choose materials that will improve student reading skills across the curriculum and at home. Tens of thousands of books and tens of millions of articles have Lexile measures, and all major standardized tests can report student reading scores in Lexiles. As the most widely adopted reading measure in use today, Lexiles are part of reading and testing programs at district, state and federal levels. The Lexile Framework was developed by MetaMetrics, an independent education company based in Durham, N.C., after 15 years of research funded by the National Institutes of Health.

For more information, press only:

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